



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Timothy M. Kaine
Governor

Dear Friend:

As we commemorate four centuries of commerce in the Commonwealth, it is important to recognize Virginia as the cornerstone for modern American culture and tradition. It is with that in mind that I designate May 13-19, 2007 as Business Appreciation Week in the Commonwealth.

This year's Business Appreciation Week theme, "Virginia – The Foundation of American Business," acknowledges the building blocks of what is now a spirited, diverse and thriving economy. Today, Virginia business owners exemplify the American dream and stand as a symbol of stability. It is because of your commitment and investments that *Forbes.com* recognized Virginia as the "Best State for Business" in August 2006, and Pollina Corporate Real Estate, Inc. recognized Virginia as the "Most Business Friendly State" in March, 2007. In return for your dedication, I pledge to work to help your business succeed.

Thank you for your unique role in our history and for moving Virginia forward. You make the Commonwealth a great place to live and work. May your ventures yield many happy returns during Business Appreciation Week and in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. M. Kaine", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Timothy M. Kaine